

REMARKS

As a result of the foregoing amendment, Claims 1-13 have been cancelled and Claims 14-27 have been added. Accordingly, Claims 14-27 are pending in this application.

This application is a divisional application of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/499,717 filed on February 8, 2000 and is directed to the subject matter in non-elected Claims 10-12 in parent U.S. Application Serial No. 09/499,717. Accordingly, Applicants have hereinabove amended the specification to include a cross-reference to related applications. A copy of page 1 with the changes made herein shown in red ink is enclosed herewith.

In addition, Applicants have hereinabove amended page 7 to correct a spelling error and page 16 to correct an informal error which the Examiner of the parent case objected to. A copy of the paragraphs amended on pages 7 and 16 as they originally existed with the changes made herein shown with brackets and underlines is enclosed herewith. No new matter has been added in the specification.

Applicants have also hereinabove amended the drawings to delete Figures 1 and 2 and substitute therefor corrected Figures 1 and 2. Applicants have corrected Figures 1 and 2 to make the lines, numbers and letters uniformly thick and well defined. A marked-up copy of original Figures 1 and 2 showing the changes made in black ink is enclosed. No new matter has been added in the drawings.

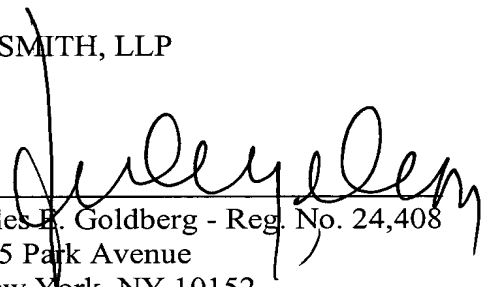
Applicants have also hereinabove amended the claims to cancel Claims 1-13 and add Claims 14-27. Claims 14-16 are essentially the same as cancelled Claims 10-12. Support for Claims 17-20 is found in the specification at page 6, lines 20-36. Support for Claims 21 and 22 is found in the specification at page 7, lines 10-14 and 32-33. Support for Claims 23 and 24 is found in the specification at page 8, lines 11-17. Support for Claims 25-27 is found in the specification at page 9, lines 7-8, 28-30 and 32-34. No new matter has been added in new Claims 14-27.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this application is now in condition for examination on the merits and prompt notice of allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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JEG/SRP

MARKED-UP COPY OF PARAGRAPHS AMENDED IN THE SPECIFICATION

PARAGRAPH AT PAGE 7, LINES 32-34

The hydrophilic polymer may be cationic, anionic, or amphoteric. A [nonioic] nonionic polymer is also employable. Preferred is a cationic polymer.

PARAGRAPH AT PAGE 16, LINES 21-31

The dried slide glass was scanned for detecting fluorescence strength. From the detected fluorescence strength is reduced the background fluorescence strength which was observed when a sample solution containing no fluorescence labelled-DNA fragment was spotted and treated in the same manner. Thus, processed fluorescence strength is set forth in Table 2 in terms of a relative value, in which the relative value is expressed in terms of value relative to the fluorescence strength detected on the DNA chip which was treated in the same manner except for using a solution containing no hydrophilic polymer.